

Amendments to the Drawings

Applicants include with this paper an amendment to Figure 6. The amended drawing is in the Appendix to this paper.

Remarks/Arguments

Applicant respectfully addresses two situations associated with this application. First, it appears that this application is currently in abandoned status. As a result, Applicant is petitioning to revive this application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b). This rule requires Applicant submit with the petition a reply to any outstanding notices or actions. It appears that the Office mailed a final action on 1 November 2006 (the “Final Action”). Therefore, Applicant submits this paper as the reply to the Final Action that § 1.137(b) requires.

Second, it appears from the Final Action that prosecution had been closed prior to this application’s lapse to abandoned status. Therefore, Applicant is submitting a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 114. But, § 114 prevents Applicant from submitting an RCE if an application is abandoned. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits this paper and associated fee payment as a *Conditional RCE* subject to grant of the petition to revive, and also as the required submission for the RCE.

The Specification

In an action mailed 17 February 2006, the Examiner asked the Applicant to correct “minor errors” that may exist in the written description. In a communication faxed to the Office on 13 August 2006, Applicant corrected such a minor error in paragraph 0063.

In this paper Applicant amends paragraphs 0008, 0026, 0053, 0061, 0067, 0074, and 0077 to correct minor formal errors, such as typographical errors, punctuation errors, incorrect figure references, etc. New matter is not added.

The Claims

Claims 1–17 are cancelled without prejudice, reserving the right to prosecution at a later time.

Claims 18–53 are added.

Support for new independent claim 18 is found, e.g., in Figure 3 and associated text. Applicant respectfully argues that U.S. Patent No. 5,251,611 (Zehel et al.) does not disclose or suggest, e.g., an “engagement feature that runs longitudinally outside of the core”.

Support for new independent claim 19 and dependent claim 20 is found, e.g., in Figure 4A and associated text.

Support for new independent claim 21 and dependent claims 22–25 is found, e.g., in Figure 4B and associated text.

Support for new independent claim 26 and dependent claims 27–30 is found, e.g., in Figures 20A and 20B and associated text.

Support for new independent claim 31 and dependent claims 32–34, and for new independent claim 54 and dependent claim 55, is found, e.g., in Figures 14A–14C and associated text.

Support for new independent claim 35 and dependent claims 36–39 is found, e.g., in Figure 15 and associated text.

Support for new independent claim 40 and dependent claim 41 is found, e.g., in Figures 16 and 23 and associated text.

Support for new independent claim 42 and dependent claims 43 and 44 is found, e.g., in Figures 19A and 19B and associated text.

Support for new independent claim 45 and dependent claims 46 and 47 is found, e.g., in Figures 17A and 17B and in associated text.

Support for new independent claims 48 and 49 is found, e.g., in Figure 18 and associated text.

Support for new independent claim 50 is found, e.g., in Figure 21 and associated text.

Support for new independent claim 51 and dependent claims 52 and 53 is found, e.g., in Figures 6 and 7 and associated text.

The Drawings

Applicants have amended Figure 6 because two reference numerals 46 were shown, each indicating different elements. A marked up copy of the Figure 6 amendment is in the Appendix to this paper. Paragraph 0053 is amended accordingly. New matter is not added.

The Final Action

In the Final Action the Examiner rejected claims 7–15. Applicant has cancelled these rejected claims, rendering moot the Examiner's rejections. Applicant does not concede any points the Examiner argued in the Final Action and reserves the right to contest such points at a later time as necessary.

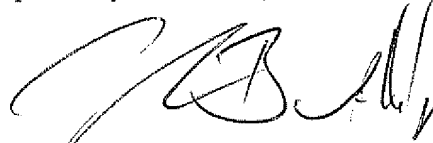
Conclusion

Applicant requests that this application be revived, the RCE be granted, the amendments in this paper be entered, and the Examiner reconsider this application.

Applicant invites the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney at 408-523-2460 to discuss any questions or proposed actions (e.g., provisional election of a claim group in response to a proposed restriction, proposed examiner amendments, etc.) in order to expedite prosecution.

Any required fees not otherwise paid or any overpayments are authorized to be deducted
or credited to Deposit Account No. 503404.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.B. Allenby', written in a cursive style.

Christopher B. Allenby
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Appendix

One (1) annotated sheet showing changes to Figure 6 follows this page.